

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPLICATION OF COLUMBIA GAS OF)	
KENTUCKY, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF)	
A PETITION FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREAT-)	CASE NO. 89-234
MENT OF CERTAIN DATA)	

O R D E R

On August 18, 1989, Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. ("Columbia") filed a petition for confidential treatment of certain data regarding flex transportation rates that it is required to file with the Commission on a monthly basis.¹ Columbia requested that all prospective filings be considered confidential and that all previously submitted data also be treated as confidential and proprietary.

On October 19, 1989, Columbia filed an addendum to its original petition seeking the same confidential treatment for the data contained in its monthly Special Agency Service ("SAS") reports and its monthly Alternative Fuel Displacement Service ("AFDS") reports. Columbia requested confidential treatment for all previous filings as well as prospective filings.

Columbia alleged that its monthly filings contain pricing information regarding the costs of alternative gas supplies and

¹ Case No. 9003, Adjustment of Rates of Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc., Order dated August 9, 1985.

other information specific to Columbia's SAS, AFDS, and flex rate transportation customers. Columbia further alleged that the reports contained information about the commercial operations of its customers and that public disclosure of such information could severely hamper the efforts of those customers to effectively compete in their respective markets.

Columbia stated that its customers do not customarily disclose the subject data to the public and that such data had been provided to Columbia in confidence. Columbia further stated that disclosure of such data might subject it to a complaint on the grounds that it had improperly invaded the privacy of its customers.

On September 20, 1989, the Attorney General, through his Utility and Rate Intervention Division, filed a motion to intervene in this proceeding which was granted.

The Commission, after consideration of matters of record and being otherwise sufficiently advised, finds that:

1. The information contained in Columbia's monthly filings--customers' names, volumes transported by Columbia, average fuel oil prices, customers' transportation rates, SAS prices, etc.--does not disclose any details of specific gas supplies or the prices paid for those supplies.

2. The monthly filings give no information as to specific alternate fuel sources or the prices thereof.

3. The information, as filed, specifies the customer, the volume transported, and the rate charged by Columbia. The filings

contain no specific information on gas supplies or alternative fuel sources, or the prices thereof.

4. Columbia has made no showing that it would suffer any competitive injury from the public disclosure of the information described herein and has not shown that disclosure of this information could hamper or harm the competitive efforts of its customers.

5. Columbia's petition for confidential treatment for all prospective filings and all previous filings regarding its flex transportation rates, SAS program, and AFDS program should be denied as the required filings are not sufficiently detailed to disclose information that would cause Columbia's customers any competitive harm.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Columbia's request for confidential treatment of the SAS data, AFDS data, and flex transportation rate data described herein is denied.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 5th day of December, 1989.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

Commissioner

Executive Director